

REMARKS

Claims 1-12 and 18-21 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1, 2, 6, 11 and 18-21 are amended.

Claims 1-12 and 18-21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph.

By this Amendment, the independent claims have been clarified. In particular, for claim 1 for example, the claim recites that the controller prepares travel information in order to display a route from a starting point to a destination on a display based on information input by the registered member. Such a feature is clearly supported by Applicant's paragraphs [0029] - [0030] of the original specification. The additional feature of searching for places of interest after the route has been determined is also clearly supported by Applicant's paragraphs [0032] - [0036]. As described in these paragraphs, the places of interest (i.e., facilities that match the taste of the member (museums)) are searched after a route has been determined.

It is respectfully requested that the rejection be withdrawn.

Claims 1-12 and 18-21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph.

For the reasons discussed above, the independent claims have been clarified. The independent claims have also been clarified in order to positively set forth that the route is displayed on a display.

It is respectfully requested that the rejection be withdrawn.

Claim 20 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. By this Amendment, claim 20 has been clarified in view of Applicant's paragraphs [0040] - [0042]. It is respectfully requested that the rejection be withdrawn.

Claims 1-10, 18-19 and 21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over DeLorme et al. (DeLorme), U.S. Patent No. 5,948,040, in view of Lynch et al. (Lynch), U.S. Patent No. 6,018,715. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

DeLorme and Lynch fail to disclose or suggest a controller that (1) prepares travel information in order to display a route from a starting point to a destination on the display based on the information input by the registered member and (2) searches for places of interest after the route has been determined using purchase records of the registered member that is stored in the memory prior to receiving the member ID upon confirmation that the member is registered, as recited in claim 1 and as similarly recited in claims 18, 19 and 21. The combination of features recited in the independent claims can achieve various advantages in that by searching for places of interest after the route has been determined, the processing time used to display a route and places of interest is reduced.

As admitted on page 6 of the Office Action, DeLorme fails to disclose using purchase records. As such, DeLorme fails to disclose or suggest (2) above. DeLorme also fails to provide any disclosure or suggestion with regard to searching for places of interest after the route has been determined using any parameter. Lynch fails to overcome the deficiencies of DeLorme because Lynch also fails to disclose or suggest (2).

Lynch discloses a traveler portfolio 18 that contains information that is used to determine an individual customer's preferred travel plan in response to an itinerary submitted by that individual. In other words, Lynch uses information preferred by each individual before determining a travel plan(col. 3, lines 39-48). Page 6 of the Office Action asserts that Lynch's travel portfolio is the purchase records, and page 12 of the Office Action states that information about the purchase of an airline ticket, seating preferences or hotels preferences is a purchase record. However, Lynch only uses this information before determining a travel plan. Like DeLorme, Lynch fails to provide any disclosure or suggestion with regard to searching for places of interest after the route has been determined using any parameter.

It is respectfully requested that the rejection be withdrawn.

Claims 11, 12 and 20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over DeLorme in view of Lynch and Bellesfield et al. (Bellesfield), U.S. Patent No. 6,282,489. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

None of the applied references disclose or suggest a controller that (1) provides route information in order to display a route on the display from a starting point to a destination to a user, and (2) searches for information providing terminals after the route has been determined, which are installed adjacent to the route that is to be traveled, which can provide the route information and which are stored in the memory, as recited in claim 11 and as similarly recited in claim 20.

For reasons similar to independent claims 1, 18, 19 and 21, DeLorme and Lynch fail to provide any disclosure or suggestion with regard to searching for information providing terminals after a route has been determined, as recited in claims 11 and 20. Page 11 of the Office Action also appears to admit that DeLorme and Lynch both fail to provide any disclosure with regard to providing information about the locations of information providing terminals which are installed adjacent to a route.

Page 11 of the Office Action applies Bellesfield to assert that Bellesfield discloses searching for places of interest associated with a geographic center (col. 12, lines 12-18). However, Bellesfield also fails to provide any disclosure or suggestion with regard to searching for information providing terminals that can provide route information. An ATM, as understood by one skilled in the art, cannot provide route information.

It is respectfully requested that the rejection be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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